

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Amended) A gyroscopic system for translating parallel and non-parallel lines between a reference line and a device to be aligned with respect to the reference line, comprising:

a first inertial sensor configured to be substantially stationary, said first inertial sensor comprising a first three-axis gyroscopic sensor configured to produce an output signal and a reflector;

a second inertial sensor configured to be portable so as to be positionable adjacent to said first inertial sensor and comprising a gimbal restricted to two physical axes, a gimbal drive system, an electromagnetic energy beam generator, a second three-axis gyroscopic sensor configured to generate an output signal, and a collimator, said collimator being operable to determine an angle between a beam projected by said beam generator and a beam reflected from said reflector and to generate an output signal indicative of said determined angle; and

a control circuit operable to process output signals generated by said collimator and said first and second three-axis gyroscopic sensors, to provide steering commands to the gimbal drive system to move the gimbal about its two physical axes such that the reflector and beam have a fixed orientation to perform calculations to compensate for a third physical axis, and determine relative orientations of said first and second inertial sensors with respect to each other.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a display unit receiving operator input and communicating with the control circuit.

4. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising an adapter coupled to the first inertial sensor for mounting the first inertial sensor to a vehicle and configured to hold the first inertial sensor at a predetermined angle offset from said reference line.

5. (Original) The system of claim 4, wherein the control circuit is operable to determine the relative orientations of said first and second inertial sensors with respect to each other taking into account the predetermined angle offset.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising:
a second reflector mountable on advice at a predetermined angle offset from the reference line; and
wherein said second inertial sensor is configured to generate an output signal indicative of said determined angle and to determine a second angle between a beam projected by said beam generator and a beam reflected from the second reflector to generate an output signal indicative of said second angle.

7. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein said a control circuit is operable to use said gyroscope output signals and data relating to the position of said gimbal relative to said reference line to determine the orientation of said device with respect to said reference line.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) A method for reference sighting, comprising:

- a) determining a nominal mirror line in a base frame for each reference mirror;
- b) measuring a first measurement vector for the first reference mirror;
- c) logging an orientation of the first gyro and the second gyro at the time of the measuring;
- d) converting the measurement vector to quaternion form;
- e) computing an actual mirror line with respect to the nominal mirror line;
- f) virtually de-rolling the orientation of the second gyro; and
- g) causing the optical reference line to converge on the nominal mirror line.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising repeating b)-f) for each mirror.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising verifying the measured position correlates with the expected position.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising repeating the mirror measurement if the measured position does not correlate with the expected position.

19. (Previously Amended) A method for aligning a device comprising:

aligning a stationary inertial sensor with respect to a reference line;

projecting an electromagnetic beam from a portable inertial sensor to a mirror coupled to said stationary inertial sensor and detecting the angle of the reflected beam;

determining the relative position of said portable inertial sensor with respect to said stationary inertial sensor using the detected angle and output data from a first gyroscope provided in said stationary inertial sensor and a second gyroscope provided in said portable inertial sensor;

controlling a two-axis gimbaled platform carrying circuitry for generating the electromagnetic beam to orient the platform about two axes;

determining a compensation for movement of the platform about a third axis; and

calculating a position of said device with respect to said reference line using said detected angle, said compensation and said output data.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 19, further comprising:

mounting the stationary inertial sensor to the device at a predetermined angle offset from said reference line; and

determining the relative orientations of said portable and stationary inertial sensors with respect to each other taking into account the predetermined angle offset.

22. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 19, further comprising:

receiving a trigger signal from an operator; and
using an orientation of the portable inertial sensor as a starting position for an optical search.